

FBI

Date: 5/9/63

Transmit the following in **PLAIN TEXT**  
(Type in plain text or code)Via **AIRTEL** **AIR MAIL**  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-6-28)

FROM: *[Signature]* SAC, MEMPHIS (157-127) (P)

SUBJECT: STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS  
PROTESTING SEGREGATION,  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE  
RM

*Photo exc*  
CC TO: *Hacc Air Force*  
REQ. REC'D 12/13/66  
DEC 16 1966  
ANS.  
BY: *JSP map*

Transmitted herewith are eight copies of a letterhead memorandum setting forth the information concerning racial demonstrations in Nashville, Tennessee, 5/8/63.

Since all information set forth herein was reported in local newspapers, dissemination not being made locally.

3- Bureau (Encl-8) **ENCLOSURE**  
2- Memphis  
FWN:nwc  
(5)

Agency G-2, ONI, OSI, CRD

*May 14 1963*  
Date Forw.....

How Forw.....

By.....

Airtel.....  
Teletype.....  
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EX-114

REC-17

157-6-28-304

8 MAY 13 1963

Approved: *56 MAY 17 1963*  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Memphis, Tennessee

May 9, 1963

**RE: STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS  
PROTESTING SEGREGATION,  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE  
RACIAL MATTERS**

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On May 9, 1963, Lieutenant SCOTTY LYNCH, Memphis Police Department, advised that there were a series of demonstrations by Negro students at Nashville, Tennessee, on May 8, 1963. The group was primarily made up of Negro high school students and some Negro college students and there were one or two white individuals who were participating in the demonstrations.

Lynch stated that the demonstrations consisted of groups of students meeting at the First Baptist Church, Eighth Avenue North and Charlotte Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee, and going from there to march in front of Cross Keys Restaurant, B and W Cafeteria and Wilson Quick Drug Store, and then going back to the church for more meetings and speeches. There was one march by the entire group through the downtown area. The students were carrying signs indicating that they were protesting segregation in Nashville, Tennessee, and were demonstrating in sympathy with the demonstrations in Birmingham, Alabama. Lynch stated that the demonstrations were quiet and orderly throughout most of the day but during the afternoon a group of white teenagers gathered in the downtown area and began to throw rocks and eggs at the demonstrators. He stated that there was some resistance to this and that there was one incident of a scuffle between a Negro demonstrator and a white heckler resulting in the arrest of the two of them.

Lynch stated that seven Negroes were arrested for failure to follow instructions of the police and creating disturbances and two white hecklers were arrested.

He stated that the two scufflers were slightly injured when they fell through a glass sign but no serious injury was sustained by anyone.

*TENN  
TEXAS*

The "Nashville Tennessean," a daily newspaper published in Nashville, Tennessee, on May 9, 1963, quoted a spokesman for the Nashville Christian Leadership Council as stating that the purpose of the demonstration was to express sympathy for Birmingham Negroes and to point out that all is not well in Nashville. The paper also stated that Billie Sol Estes, described as a "bankrupt promoter," made a speech to the group of students at the First Baptist Church, stating "If America does not mean integration we should give the Indians back their land and pray for forgiveness for taking their land."

Listed as having been arrested are the following:

[redacted] -  
loitering.

[redacted] - disorderly  
conduct by refusing to obey an officer.

[redacted] - interfering  
with an officer.

[redacted] -  
disorderly conduct and simple assault.

[redacted] -  
simple assault.

[redacted] - charge not shown.

[redacted] - address not shown.

[redacted] - address not shown.

*NASHVILLE TENN*

The paper did not list the identity of the ninth person arrested.

The information from Lieutenant Lynch was furnished

to Colonel Jack Kelley, 111th INTC Group, Nashville,  
Tennessee, May 9, 1963.

This document contains neither recommendations nor  
conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is  
loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be  
distributed outside your agency.